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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,165	06/27/2001	Kalle J. Karkas	617-010445-US(PAR)	4512
2512	7590	03/24/2006	EXAMINER	
PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			LIPMAN, JACOB	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2134	
DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/893,165

Applicant(s)

KARKAS ET AL.

Examiner

Jacob Lipman

Art Unit

2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/1/06.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-5, 8-22, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 (and 26) recites the limitation "without any connection to a central control element". The term Central control element is undefined, and unclear. The specification's only reference to this term states, "In embodiments of the present invention, there is no need to connect each of the Bluetooth devices together to a central control element." Since the claim seems to exclude a specific system setup, but has not clearly outlined what systems would be excluded from the claimed invention, the limitation will not be given patentable weight.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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4. Claims 1-5 and 8-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wang, US Patent Number 6,175,922.

With regard to claims 1, 16, 21, 22, and 26, Wang discloses an access device (PEAD, column 18 lines 33-36) including means for wirelessly (column 18 lines 44-47) receiving a key (column 18 line 63- column 19 line 4, column 17 line-column 18 line 3) and validity information (column 7 lines 45-60, encrypting the key), and a wireless means for establishing a connection with another party (column 19 lines 8-9, column 18 lines 5-7) to provide the key and validity information (column 19 lines 4-9) where if the key and information are valid, access is provided (column 19 lines 9-14), and the communications operate at different frequencies (column 19 lines 15-20 and column 19 line 66-column 20 line 3), and the lock on the door does not need to be able to connect with the internet directly.

With regard to claims 2-4, Wang discloses the PEAD receives, and displays to the user additional information, such as price and items (column 19 lines 58-52).

With regard to claim 5, Wang discloses the display can be substituted for an audio output (column 11 lines 57-60).

With regard to claims 10 and 11, Wang discloses the means for establishing a connection can be done using short range wireless communication capabilities such as Bluetooth and infrared (column 19 line 66-column 20 line 3) and that the receiving means can be done with a cell phone (column 18 lines 33-36).

With regard to claims 8 and 9, Wang Bluetooth uses a high frequency (How Bluetooth Works, page 4) and low power (How Bluetooth Works, page 5).

With regard to claim 12-14, Wang discloses that the PEAD can have more than 1 coupon, where each coupon is identified with a specific food (column 18 lines 28-32).

With regard to claim 15, Wang discloses using the dice to gain access to a hotel room (column 19 lines 4-9).

With regard to claims 17 and 18, Wang discloses the key is encrypted using the merchant's private key (column 19 lines 3-4).

With regard to claims 19, 20, 23, and 24, Wang discloses the validity information can include the user ID or time related information (column 7 lines 52-56), which specifies the period of validity of the key (column 11 lines 49-53). Further, Wang discloses the information could be airline and theatre tickets (column 19 line 1). These tickets inherently have a time, which indicated the period of validity.

With regard to claim 25, Wang discloses the PED can be mobile (column 18 lines 33-35).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 16 September 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that since the hotel's server could be cable connected to the Internet, that it is connected to a central control element. The examiner disagrees that the Internet is necessarily a central control element, and further points out that the hotel server does not need to be cable connected to the Internet, and as was stated in the prior office action (claim 1 rejection), "the lock on the door does not need to be able to connect with the Internet directly."

With regard to applicant's argument that Wang does not disclose specifying a time period for which said key is valid, but only discloses a time validity for the approve button, the examiner points out that the claims are rejected over the entire reference, and not just the citations given as examples. Wang makes numerous references to time related information. The best example might be that a Wang specifically lists tickets that are time dependant (column 19 lines 4-8). Wand further discloses that a user checks in and out of a hotel with his wireless device (column 17 line 59-column 18 line 12), specifying a time for which the key is valid (between check-in and check-out).

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

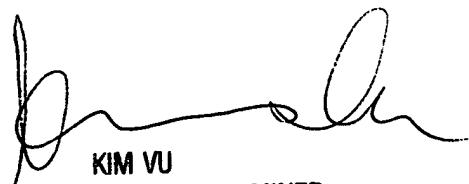
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob Lipman whose telephone number is 571-272-3837. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7 AM-3 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on 571-272-3838. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JL


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